



#### MISSION STATEMENT

*In light of Church documents, Catholic schools in the Diocese of Reno, in partnership with parents, are committed to fostering gospel values, academic excellence and life-long service in a faith-centered community.*

March 5, 2020

#### Response of the Diocese of Reno Catholic Schools to the Coronavirus Epidemic

On Thursday, March 4, 2020, Bishop Calvo distributed to parishes and other leadership groups the “Response of the Diocese of Reno to the Coronavirus Epidemic.” The preface states:

“With the increasing concern about the spread of the Coronavirus/Covid 19, the Diocese of Reno makes the following recommendations and considerations for Eucharistic liturgies, in addition to personal precautions advised by the Center for Disease Control. These are based on guidance from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops as well as practices adapted by some dioceses. While parishes have already discussed and implemented preventive measures with their communities, we ask the following be reviewed by all pastoral entities for Masses in northern Nevada.” Please check the Diocese of Reno website, <https://renodiocese.org> for the complete list of recommendations.

Diocese of Reno Catholic Schools also have procedures in place regarding illnesses. Principals understand the protocols. Because the status of the Covid-19 is fluid, responses will be determined based on communication with the Washoe County Health Department or, for St. Teresa of Avila School, the Carson City Health Department. Up to date information can be found on the Washoe County Health Department’s COVID-19 website:

[https://www.washoecounty.us/health/programs-and-services/communicable-diseases-and-epidemiology/educational\\_materials/COVID-19.php](https://www.washoecounty.us/health/programs-and-services/communicable-diseases-and-epidemiology/educational_materials/COVID-19.php) or in Carson City: <https://gethealthycarsoncity.org/>

At this time, you are encouraged to:

- contact your primary care physician if you or a family member are sick,
- Please keep your students home from school and away from all activities if they are sick,
- reduce spreading of respiratory viruses by following proper handwashing and sanitizing practices, covering coughs and sneezes, avoiding contact with people who are sick, not touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands, and other prevention practices, including staying home.

Since students in schools are going to be observing spring break, it is important that you respect the CDC’s guidance on travel and subsequent monitoring/isolation requirements. At this time, the countries identified are China, Japan, South Korea, Iran, and Italy. Again, this information may be changing rapidly. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html> and <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/after-travel-precautions.html>

Please join us in keeping in our prayers all who have been affected by Covid-19 and, with your understanding and support, we will continue to follow best practices to mitigate and respond as directed.

*Karen Barreras*

*Karen Barreras, M.Ed., Superintendent*

*Diocese of Reno Catholic Schools*

*290 S. Arlington Ave.*

*Reno, NV 89501*